CITY OF SAN DIEGO
M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: February 2, 2005

TO: Natural Resources & Culture Committee, Agenda for February 9, 2005

FROM: Frank Belock, Jr., Water Department Director

SUBJECT: Water Department Item for Approval
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The following Water Department project is brought forward to the NR&C Committee for consideration and approval. This is not a Capital Improvements Program project, but is a Water Operations Division project to replace broken water meter boxes.

Project: Water Meter Box Replacement Project – Minor Construction Program

There are approximately 3,600 broken and damaged concrete water meter boxes within the City's water system. These damaged boxes have caused claims to be filed through the City's Risk Management Department and the meter boxes must be replaced in order to reduce any further liability to the City.   The Water Department intends to utilize the City's Minor Construction Program to expedite the replacement of the damaged meter boxes by June 2005. The Minor Construction Program is being used as this type of work lends itself to up-and-coming contractors and will afford them work while the City's CIP program has been temporarily reduced. These contractors will be used to eliminate the backlog and the routine replacement will be resumed by City employees.

To accomplish this task, the replacement of 3,600 meter boxes will be divided into eight individual project groups. The estimated cost for each project group through the City's Minor Construction Program is less than $150,000. The Water Department is seeking authorization for the expenditure of the total cost of the eight project groups, including all related costs which is $1,600,000.00, from Water Fund 41500, Org 5372.

This activity is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301. However, additional environmental review may be needed if impacts occur to environmentally sensitive lands or resources. Work force reports will be in construction bidding documents.

Frank Belock, Jr.
Water Department Director

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